

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 17, 2011

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 199

Introduced by Assembly Members ~~Cook and Ma~~ *Ma and Cook*
(Principal coauthor: Senator Yee)

January 27, 2011

~~An act relating to pupil instruction.~~ *An act to amend Section 51221.4 of the Education Code, relating to school curriculum.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 199, as amended, ~~Cook Ma. Pupil instruction.~~ *School curriculum: social sciences: Filipinos in World War II.*

Existing law requires the adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, to include instruction in social sciences, which is permitted to include instruction on World War II and the American role in that war. *Existing law encourages that instruction to include a component drawn from personal testimony of American soldiers who were involved in World War II and those men and women who contributed to the war effort on the homefront.*

~~This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would include instruction on the role of Filipinos in World War II in the instruction of pupils in social sciences.~~

Existing law also encourages the required instruction in social sciences to include instruction on the Vietnam War, including the "Secret War" in Laos, and the role of Southeast Asians in that war. Those provisions encourage that instruction to include a component drawn from personal testimony of Southeast Asians who were involved in the Vietnam War and those men and women who contributed to the war effort on the homefront. School districts are required to implement

this instruction in a manner that does not result in the imposition of new duties or programs.

This bill would encourage instruction in social sciences for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, to include instruction on World War II and the role of Filipinos in that war, and would encourage that instruction to include a component drawn from personal testimony, as provided.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 *SECTION 1. Section 51221.4 of the Education Code is amended*
2 *to read:*

3 51221.4. (a) The Legislature encourages instruction in the area
4 of social sciences, as required pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section
5 51220, ~~which may~~ *to include instruction on the Vietnam-war War,*
6 including the “Secret War” in Laos, and the role of Southeast
7 Asians in that war. The Legislature encourages ~~that~~ *this instruction*
8 *to include, but not be limited to, a component drawn from personal*
9 *testimony, especially in the form of oral or video-history histories*
10 of Southeast Asians who were involved in the Vietnam-war War
11 and those men and women who contributed to the war effort on
12 the homefront. The oral histories used as a part of the instruction
13 regarding the role of Southeast Asians in the Vietnam-war War
14 and the “Secret War” in Laos shall exemplify the personal sacrifice
15 and courage of the wide range of ordinary citizens who were called
16 upon to participate and provide intelligence for the United States.
17 The oral histories shall contain the views and comments of their
18 subjects regarding the reasons for their participation in the war.
19 These oral histories shall also solicit comments from their subjects
20 regarding the aftermath of the war and the immigration of Southeast
21 Asians to the United States.

22 (b) (1) *The Legislature encourages the instruction required*
23 *pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 51220 to include instruction*
24 *on World War II and the role of Filipinos in that war, consisting*
25 *of an accurate history of the contributions of the Filipino American*
26 *veterans who fought courageously in the United States Army for*
27 *freedom and democracy in World War II under the leadership of*
28 *General Douglas MacArthur.*

(2) *The Legislature encourages the instruction described in paragraph (1) to include a component drawn from personal testimony, especially in the form of oral or video histories of Filipinos who were involved in World War II and those men and women who contributed to the war effort on the homefront. The oral histories used as a part of the instruction regarding the role of Filipinos in World War II are encouraged to do all of the following:*

(A) *Exemplify the personal sacrifice and courage of the wide range of ordinary citizens who were called upon to participate and to provide intelligence for the United States.*

(B) *Contain the views and comments of their subjects regarding the reasons for their participation in the war.*

(C) *Solicit comments from their subjects regarding the aftermath of the war and the immigration of Filipinos to the United States.*

~~(b)~~

(c) This section shall be carried out in a manner that does not result in ~~any~~ new duties or programs being imposed on the school district. In that regard, the Legislature finds and declares that this section does not mandate costs to local agencies or school districts and that materials used to comply with this section shall be part of normal curriculum materials purchased by school districts in their normal course of business and purchasing cycles.

~~SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would include instruction on the role of Filipinos in World War II in the instruction of pupils in social sciences.~~